

**Minutes of Lavaca Regional Water Planning Group
August 12, 2024
Edna, Texas**

A meeting of the Lavaca Regional Water Planning Group was held on Monday, August 12, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. at the Texana Community Education Center, located in Texana Park, 344 Park Road 2, located approximately seven (7) miles east of Edna, Jackson County, Texas off FM3131 and was also available through audio/video teleconference.

Voting Group Members present were Chairman Spenrath, Vice-Chair Neil Hudgins, Members Jim Coleman, Steve Cooper, Lee Hafernicks, Jack Maloney, Robert Shoemate, Jill Sklar, and Ed Weinheimer. Also in attendance was Jaime Burke of Black and Veatch, John Mauer of Texas Water Development Board, Jami McCool of the Texas Department of Agriculture, LNRA Board President Jerry Adelman, LNRA Deputy General Manager Karen Gregory. Joining via audio/video teleconference were Lavaca Regional Water Planning Group voting members, Marie Day, James Migl, Richard Ottis, and Grace Ward, Tim Andruss of Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District, and Lauren Gonzales, Katie Snyder, and Alicia Smiley of Black & Veatch.

Absent Voting Group Members were Secretary Patrick Brzozowski, Tom Chandler, Lee Hafernicks, Bart McBeth, Vance Mitchell, Edward Pustka, and Michael Sklalicky.

Vice Chairman Hudgins called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Minutes

The minutes of the May 6, 2024 meeting were reviewed. Weinheimer moved to approve the minutes as presented. Cooper seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Nominations for New Voting Members

There were no new voting member nominations.

The Group will continue to seek a new member to fill the remaining vacancy, Lavaca County, Small Business.

Briefing and Update from Texas Water Development Board

John Mauer, Texas Water Development Board, presented an update to the Group as follows:

- TWDB State Flood Plan
- Flood Mitigation Projects with Water Supply Benefit
- Informal Comments – Technical Memorandum
- Water Supply Needs & Surpluses Map
- Rule 357.34(g) Update
- List of Projection Revisions from Local Plans
- TWDB and GMA Orientation Meeting
- Texas Water Fund

Texas Water Fund Implementation Plan

- Emails, Public Comments, and Responses to Three Surveys
 - 1) Financial Assistance for Water Infrastructure Projects
 - 2) New Water Supply for Texas Fund
 - 3) Statewide Water Public Awareness
- Implementation Plan Released July 23, 2024
- TWF Implementation Plan – Proposed Funding Allocations – Total \$1B
 - Rural Water Assistance Fund
 - Water Loan Assistance Fund
 - SWIFT Program Support
 - New Water Supply for Texas Fund
 - Potential bond leveraged funding through existing financial assistance programs
 - Statewide water public awareness program
- TWF Implementation Plan Updates - Timeline

A copy of the power point presentation was presented to the Group and made part of these official minutes.

Reports from Regional Liaisons and Interregional Planning Council Representative

There were no report updates from Regional Liaisons or Interregional Planning Council Representative.

Briefing and Update from Black and Veatch

Jaime Burke, Black and Veatch, briefed the Group on the Region P Schedule and progress since the last meeting. New or ongoing efforts include:

- Review of Drought Contingency Plans and beginning work on Chapter 7
- Water management strategy evaluations
- Chapter edits

Discussion and RWPG Approval of Major Water Providers:

Shoemate moved to approve Lavaca-Navidad River Authority as the major water provider for Region P. Maloney seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Group discussed the threshold used to determine whether to consider ASR as a potential strategy for a WUG, other than those that have requested it. Burke reminded the Group that last cycle, the threshold was any WUG with an identified need of 10,000 acre-feet per year or greater. For last cycle and this cycle no WUGs meet this threshold.

Cooper moved for the RWPG to continue for the threshold to be any WUG with an identified need of 10,000 acre-feet per year (ac-ft/yr) or greater. Coleman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes of Lavaca Regional Water Planning Group

August 12, 2024

Page 3

Burke also gave a briefing on:

- Water Management Strategy Updates
- Legislative and Policy Recommendations updates to Chapter 8 of the 2026 Plan received through July 31, 2024

The Group was presented with a copy of the Black and Veatch power point presentation and made part of these official minutes.

Schedule Future Meetings

The Group tentatively scheduled a meeting for November 4, 2024 at noon (12:00 p.m.)

Receive Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Cooper moved to adjourn. Coleman seconded the motion. Motion carried.
The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Phillip Spenrath
Chairman